## Economic and Financial Effects of Lower Energy Prices

Presentation to Accompany Testimony by William W. Beach

Before the House Budget Committee
June 20, 2001

## Summary of the Analysis

- The WEFA U.S. Macroeconomic Model was used to simulate a 10% decrease in petroleum prices.
- The price decrease stimulated higher economic activity, job creation, and investment. Unemployment fall.
- Inflation declined, as did the user cost of capital.

## Federal Financial Results

- Lower fuel prices and lower inflation yield lower expenditures.
- Federal government saves about \$100 billion over the ten-year period.
- Lower outlays improve the general fund surplus, which grows by \$76 billion more than baseline.

Chart 1
Additional Gross Domestic Product
(After Inflation)

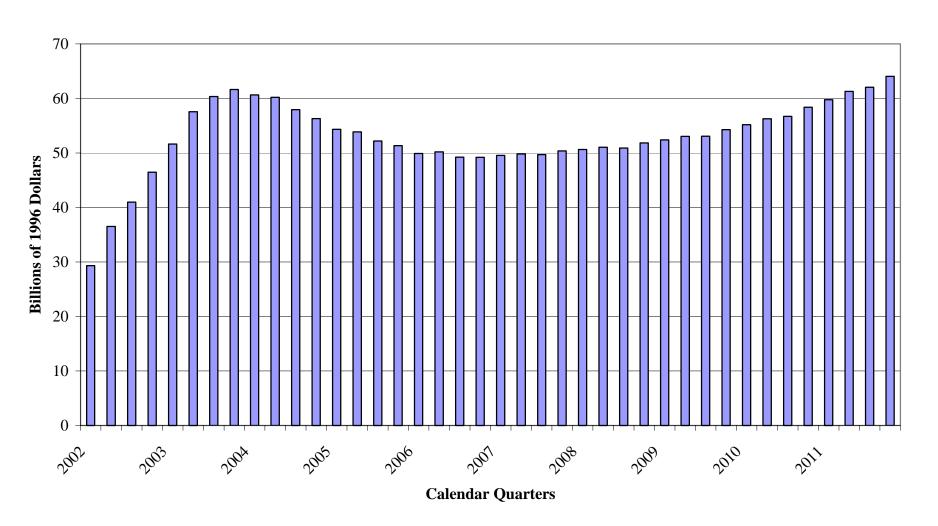


Chart 2 Increase in Civilian Employment

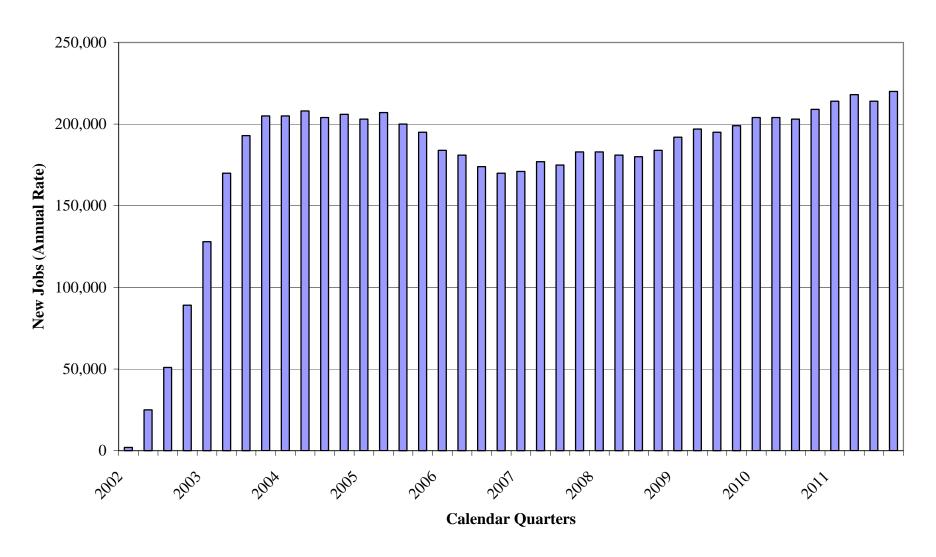


Chart 3
Additional Fixed Investment
(After Inflation)

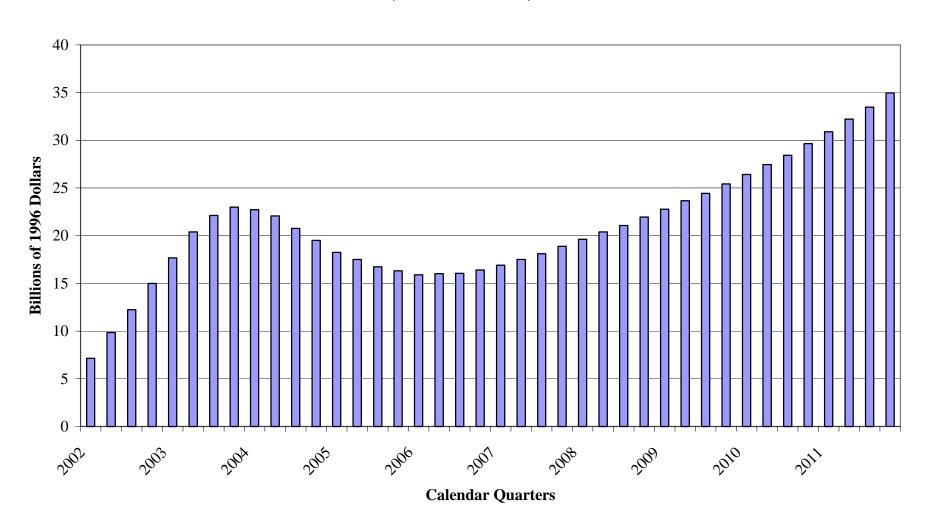


Chart 4
Capital Costs Fall

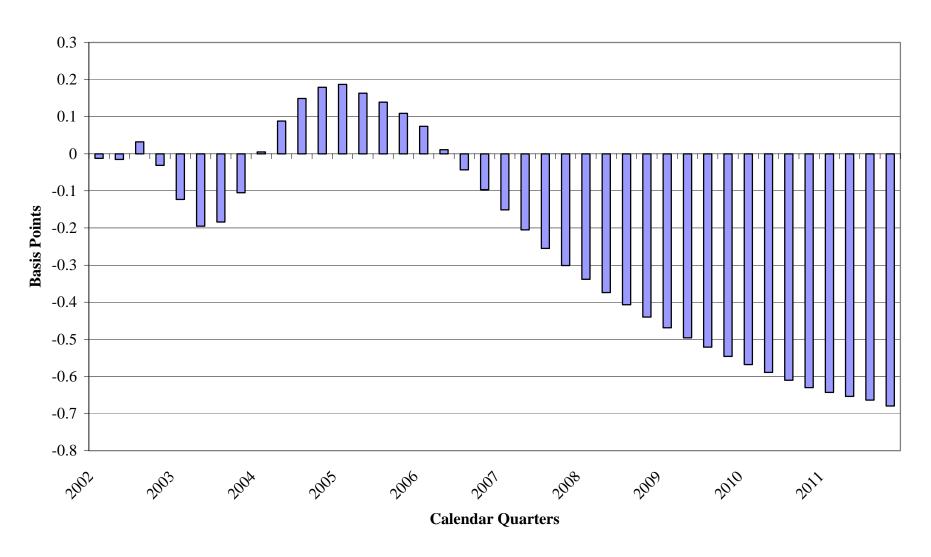
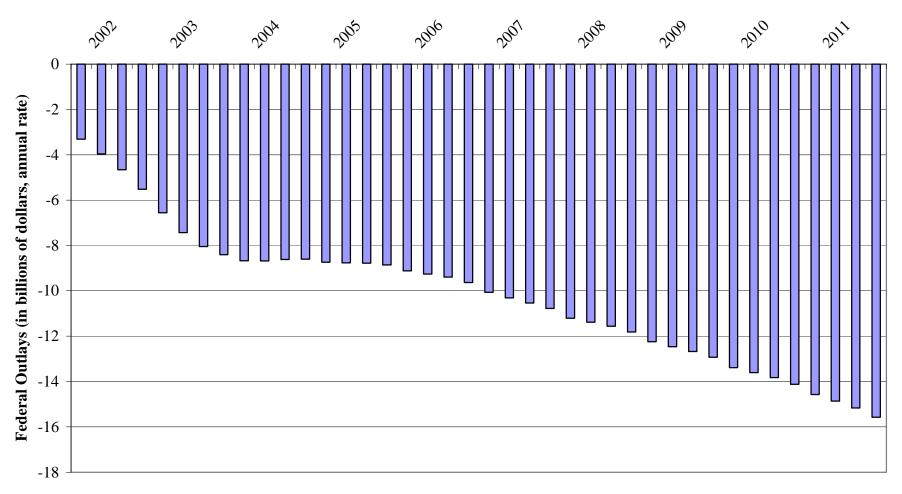
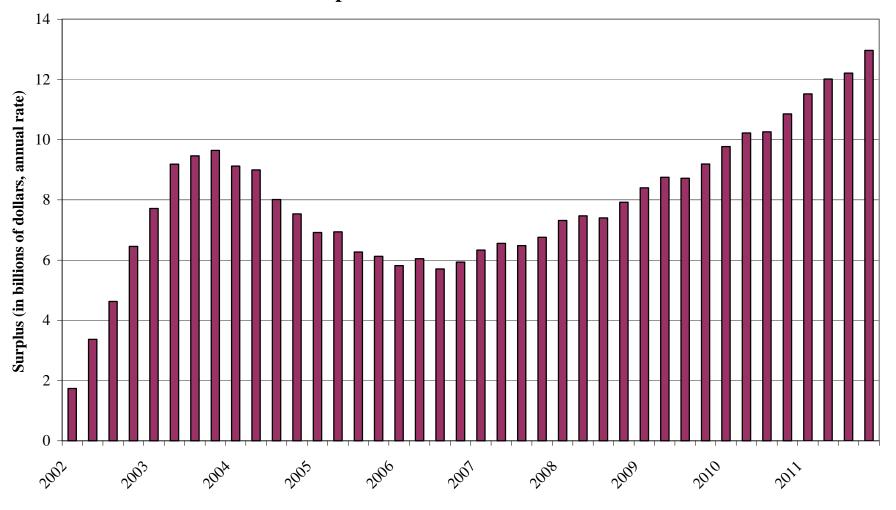


Chart 5 Change in Federal Outlays



**Calendar Quarters** 

Chart 6
Addtional Federal Surplus from 10 Percent Lower Petroleum Prices



**Calendar Quarters**